

**WHEREAS**, the tragedy of domestic violence touches all our lives by weakening families, leaving emotional scars as devastating as physical ones, and creating a destructive cycle of violence where those who were abused as children may become abusers themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is a major crime wherein 10,247 police reports were received in the year 2000, with 7,853 battered women admitted to shelter and 15 deaths in Broward County; and

**WHEREAS**, the president of the United States and the Governor of the State of Florida have declared October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in an effort to raise awareness of the national and local problem of domestic violence with several events scheduled throughout the month including a SafeWalk on October 5<sup>th</sup>, Athletes Against Domestic Violence on October 16<sup>th</sup> and a Memorial on October 30<sup>th</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Women in Distress of Broward County, Inc., is the only State Certified Domestic Violence Assistance Agency in Broward County, promoting S.A.F.E. (Stop Abuse For Everyone) to raise awareness in the community and provide shelter for victims of domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential to recognize the needs of children and the detrimental effects of abuse, as well as the need to emphasize the plight of those in Broward county, who are abused; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors acknowledges the crucial urgency to eliminate child, domestic and elder abuse in Broward County; That the Board hereby recognizes the efforts of Women In Distress of Broward County, Inc., in education intervention and treatment of Domestic Abuse in Broward County and proclaim the month of October "Domestic Violence Month" and encourages everyone to support and participate in events and activities that focus attention on the problem of abuse and what can be done to help its victims within our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Davie hereby proclaim the month of October, 2002 as;

#### **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 16th day of October, 2002.

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**Harry Venis, Mayor**